

DAILY REPORT

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FMLN, SALVADORAN PEACE COMMISSION MEET IN BOGOTA

PA291925 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] The first contact between members of the Salvadoran Peace Commission and representatives of the fighting fronts of that country took place today at Narino Palace in the presence of President Belisario Betancur. The meeting, which lasted 2 hours, was attended by Monsignor Ravelo, bishop of Santa Ana in El Salvador, and Francisco Quinonez, a deputy and businessman, both members of the Peace Commission, and by student leader Oscar Bonilla and economist Carlos Molina of the Salvadoran fighting fronts.

At the end of the meeting, President Betancur told reporters that this was the first contact between the Peace Commission and the Salvadoran fighters. The following is a recorded statement by President Betancur:

[Begin recording] In response to an initiative made by the president of Columbia a few weeks ago, the representatives of the fighting fronts of El Salvador and the members of the Peace Commission of that country decided to meet in Bogota for the session that has just concluded. It was a preliminary contact only, and I was authorized by the participants to tell the press that they will not make any statements; they only wish to say that the meeting was merely an initial dialogue. One question which might be of interest to the reporters concerns whether this first contact will lead to further a dialogue, but I have not been authorized to make any additional statement in that respect. I only want to add that the Government of Colombia is honored to have promoted this contact, and I in particular, as president of Columbia, an especially honored, as a member of the Contadora Group, to have served as liaison for this meeting, which we promoted within the Contadora spirit in our search for every means that may lead to peace in Central America. I wish to thank Monsignor Ravelo and Dr Francisco Quinonez, both members of the Peace Commission, and Oscar Bonilla and economist Carlos Molina for having accepted this invitation, which constitutes an honor to us. [end recording]

President Betancur met for the first time Sunday night with Monsignor Ravelo and Dr Quinonez, and early Monday he met with the representatives of the fighting fronts, Oscar Bonilla and Carlos Molina. The meeting started at 0900 and concluded shortly after 1100. It took place in a special room of the private presidential residence, prepared by Mrs Betancur, who personally handled the details for this first contact.

In conclusion, within the framework of this meeting, President Betancur announced the visit of Richard Stone next Wednesday.

MEXICAN FOREIGN UNDER SECRETARY AT PANAMA MEETING

PA260420 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Ricardo Valero, Mexican foreign under secretary, said in Panama City that border incidents, increasing arms traffic, and the presence of foreign advisers hinder the peace efforts being made by the Contadora Group. Valero is in Panama to attend the meeting of the Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers which, according to Mexican diplomatic sources, is preparatory to the meeting to be held in Mexico in September with the participation of the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

MULTIPARTY GROUP, CHILEANS ENDORSE TREATY

PY260257 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2305 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Aug (NA) -- The Multiparty Group and representative political sectors of Chile today jointly urged the "prompt signing by the two governments of a peace treaty, thus putting an end to the dispute over the southern border.

"We deem as advisable and as possible a peace treaty, which will jointly commit our two countries and which in turn will be a commitment with the pope, that will serve to preserve, strengthen, and develop solid ties of peace and friendship between the two nations," notes a statement issued by the Argentine Multiparty Group and the Chilean Alliance Group.

Both groups are grateful for and encourage the "Holy See's mediatory role and hope that a prompt and satisfactory conclusion will be reached so that a final treaty may be signed between the two countries."

The following is the text of the document: "In line with the Holy See's suggestion that a peace treaty be drawn up between the Republics of Chile and Argentina, we now jointly repeat the call that the Argentine Multiparty Group made to this end last July.

"We firmly believe that the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries will be the guarantee that will maintain the mediation process' development within the appropriate atmosphere.

"Through this accord, the ancient origin of our countries will be reasserted, including their mutual confidence and the assurance that no matter what differences arise between the two countries, they will be resolved in accordance with our nature as peaceful nations, which reject both war and the threat of it.

"We deem it important, as democratic mouthpieces of our respective peoples, to raise our voices, which have no institutional outlet, to call on our governments for the prompt signing of a peace treaty. The preservation of peace between the Republics of Argentina and Chile that has been maintained throughout a century and a half cannot be claimed by any government nor can it be used for domestic political aims [words indistinct].

"We deem as advisable and as possible the drawing up a peace treaty, which will jointly commit our two countries and in turn will be a commitment to the pope, that will preserve, strengthen, and develop solid ties of peace and friendship between the two nations; that will peacefully and cordially resolve any dispute that may arise in any segment of their mutual relations; and that will permanently stop them from resorting, directly or indirectly, to any form of threat or use of force.

"We are grateful for and we encourage the mediatory role of the Holy See and hope that it reaches a prompt and satisfactory conclusion, so that a final treaty may be signed between the two countries.

"We believe that upon recovering full democracy, our nations will be in a better position to consolidate peace, make headway toward the integration of their economies, and jointly defend their respective rights over the Antarctic, as well as achieving permanent recognition of the Argentine claim over the Malvinas.

"We wholeheartedly hope that this proposal will be accepted, because we feel certain that it represents the will of the majority of our peoples."

BEAGLE MEDIATION DELEGATE ON PEACE PROSPECTS

PY292238 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1916 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Aug (DYN) -- Argentine delegate to the papal mediation for the southern Beagle Channel conflict, General Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, today stated that Argentina feels that it is not necessary to sign a peace treaty with Chile. He added that the military government can still reach an agreement with its Chilean counterpart before the installation of the future government.

Etcheverry Boneo, who left for Rome today, stated that "the Montevideo treaty between Argentina and Chile, which guarantees peace between the two nations, is still in effect." He added that "a war situation does not exist between the two countries that would justify the signing of a peace agreement."

Etcheverry Boneo also said that even before the installation of the democratic government, the current military administration can reach a general agreement with Chile on the Beagle conflict.

UK AMBASSADOR DENIES TLATELOLCO TREATY VIOLATED

PY291403 Paris AFP in Spanish 1835 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Lima, 27 Aug (AFP) -- British Ambassador to Peru Charles W. Wallace denied in Lima today that Great Britain violated the Tlatelolco treaty during the Malvinas conflict. Thus, the British diplomat answered Argentine Ambassador to Peru Luis Sanchez Moreno. Sanchez Moreno accused Great Britain 2 days ago of violating the Tlatelolco treaty by sending nuclear submarines to the South Atlantic. Sanchez Moreno supported his accusation by citing a resolution of the organization charged with guaranteeing observance of the treaty.

In a note sent to a Lima newspaper, Wallace said that the British Government has complied with its obligation not to deploy nuclear weapons in the territory and waters over which Great Britain has sovereignty in keeping with the Tlatelolco treaty.

As for nuclear submarines, Wallace said that Article 5 of the treaty excludes them expressly because nuclear propulsion is not a weapon.

In sum, Wallace said that Ambassador Sanchez Moreno's concern would be more comprehensible if the Argentine Government had not refused to ratify the treaty.

EDITOR KELLY ACCUSES LICIO GELLI OF THREATS

PY292035 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Aug 83 p 7

[Excerpt] -- NA -- Guillermo Patricio Kelly, who was abducted for 16 hours last week, said yesterday that the first thing alleged P-2 Lodge head Licio Gelli did after escaping from his Geneva prison was to order Kelly's death.

Kelly also said that he gave Monsignor Ubaldo Calabresi on Saturday important information concerning his recent accusations and his abduction at a one-hour meeting with the Vatican representative to Argentina. Earlier in the day Kelly said Police Commissioner Jorge Sassani, who is heading investigations into his abduction, has received "death threats".

The chief of the 35th precinct police station "told me he had received threats against his life," Kelly said, adding that Sassani "made this disclosure in front of several witnesses, including a journalist."

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES TO HELP COURT INVESTIGATIONS

PY270213 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Aug 83 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) The military junta will "do its utmost to clear up the incidents that are being investigated" in federal courts, specially those in connection with the Armed Forces' "dirty war" against leftwing subversion, government sources disclosed yesterday. This decision was reportedly taken at a four-hour meeting of the commanders of the three Armed Forces as well as President Reynaldo Bignone to discuss "the most recent events affecting the state of the nation and continue observing their development very closely," an official communique said.

The main issues on the agenda were the kidnapping and later reappearance of Guillermo Patricio Kelly and the competence of several federal judges to carry out probes into incidents related to the Armed Forces' "dirty war" against leftwing subversion, involving "high-ranking Navy and Army officers and other military personnel," the sources said.

INTERIOR MINISTER WARNS UNION, BUSINESS LEADERS

PY261850 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1240 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Aug (NA) -- Interior Minister Llamil Reston today issued a warning to business representatives and labor leaders about measures they may adopt by noting that "the fuse is burning and there is little of it left," and "if the powder keg explodes, all of us will lose, you and us alike."

According to business sources, the interior minister told the labor leaders and business representatives who attended a government meeting that "you must be very careful with what you do."

The business sources, which gave details about the meeting, confirmed that the government offered a 400-peso increase on a minimum salary of 1,400 pesos, the increase of family allotments, and the expansion of social work services for the unemployed and their families. However, the labor leader, through union leader Jorge Triaca of the General Labor Confederation-Azopardo branch, rejected this proposal by noting that the important thing was to grant a substantial salary increase and that everything else was "foolishness."

CGT Official States Position

PY262205 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1403 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Aug (NA) -- Jorge Triaca, leader of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] Azopardo branch today denied that the two CGT branches had "rejected a salary increase offered by the government. He noted that what they rejected was "the method," since the solution to the crisis "cannot be just a salary increase."

Triaca, who yesterday attended a meeting with businessmen, ministers, and bishops, noted that "it does not matter how much salaries are increased if the other economic variables are not implemented in a credible and concerted manner." The union leader added that if these aspects are not taken into account, "salaries lose their purchasing power."

Leaders from the two CGT branches noted that yesterday's meeting failed because Economic Minister Jorge Webhe refused to implement changes in the socioeconomic program.

The decision of the union group to grant a deadline of next Tuesday to the government shows that both branches of the CGT have virtually decided to obtain the changes they are demanding without enforcing any strikes.

AIR FORCE COMMANDERS HOLD MEETING ON POLITICS

PY261858 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Aug 83 p 1

["Text" of communique released at end of a meeting of Air Force commanders on 23 August at the Condor Building in Buenos Aires]

[Text] The meeting that all the brigadier generals with commands in the country held today (yesterday) at the Condor Building was presided over by the Air Force commander in chief, Lieutenant General Augusto Jorge Hughes. The deliberations began at 0900 and after a break the brigadiers resumed the meeting, which continued to late in the afternoon.

The national socioeconomic situation was discussed and the participants agreed that the proposal presented by the labor unions must be given an answer that may guarantee the maintenance of social peace, assuring that the poorest homes will have the indispensable goods to meet their needs.

The brigadiers discussed the development of the institutionalization process, and the exemplary development of the internal party elections was observed with satisfaction.

Brigadier Etsel Oscar Martinez Viademonte, in his role as chief of the Emergency Air Command of the Northeastern Zone headquartered in Rosario, spoke about the situation in the flooded provinces and what the Emergency Air Command is doing in support of the affected people. He also urged the Air Force commander to make the maximum effort to support the people of these provinces.

Reviewing the current political situation, Lieutenant General Hughes gave instructions that the personnel from the different units who will be overseeing the elections to be held on 30 October be appropriately instructed, in order to guarantee their correct and effective performance.

ECONOMY MINISTER REPORTS PRODUCTION STATISTICS

PY300101 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Rio Cuarto, 27 Aug (TELAM) -- The production of manufactured products increased by 11.4 percent during the second quarter of 1983, compared to a 6.1-percent increase during the first quarter of the year.

Economy Minister Jorge Webhe gave this statistical data in a speech delivered in Rio Cuarto, Cordoba Province, to close a seminar on industrial promotion. The ceremony was held at the White Hall of the municipal building.

As for the income of the industrial sector, Webhe said that wages increased by 46.3 percent in real terms from June 1982 to June 1983.

He also said that the gross domestic product increased in all production sectors, though in different levels. Thus, for example, the manufacturing of vehicles during the second quarter of the year increased by 84.2 percent compared to the same period the previous year. The production of tractors, agricultural machinery, fuel-driven engines, and machines in general was quite strong, to mention only the most important sectors.

He said that an important increase was also observed in the steel production sector, citing especially the 8.3-percent increase in the production of pig iron, 23.5 percent in steel, and 29.8 percent in sheet steel, despite the drop in shipments abroad during that period.

Wehbe later stated that production of chemical products was benefited by the demands of the textile, paper, agricultural machinery, and automotive industries, and added that a strong increase was also recorded in the production of plastics, pharmaceutical, and agrochemical products.

In his speech, the minister stated that the criticisms against the economic situation are effects of the current electoral process, although there are some difficulties which no one is trying to conceal. He concluded by urging those attending the seminar to stay on the difficult path, despite the occasional unpleasantness they may experience due to the firmness of their convictions.

DEADLINE FOR POLITICAL PARTY ALLIANCES EXTENDED

PY291844 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The deadline for the recognition of political party alliances for the forthcoming 30 October general elections has been extended to 10 September.

PERONISTS PICK BUENOS AIRES TICKET 25 AUG

PY270222 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Aug 83 p 11

[Excerpt] La Plata, (DYN) -- The Buenos Aires Province Peronist Party congress yesterday proclaimed the uncontested Herminio Iglesias-Jose Carmelo Amerise gubernatorial ticket, following an eventful day in which, among other incidents, a young woman was wounded by a bullet.

While the voting took place, party congressmen supporting the gubernatorial candidacy of Movement for Unity, Solidarity, and Organization (MUSO) leader Antonio Cafiero, meeting separately at a local hotel, were reportedly studying the possibility of rejecting the results of the voting before Electoral Judge Gustavo de la Serna.

Only 426 of the 658 congressmen registered to vote cast their ballots. Herminio Iglesias was backed by 402 congressmen, while 15 others supported Cafiero, seven cast blank ballots, and two others had their invalidated.

The other 232 congressmen supporting Cafiero's candidacy did not vote, as they had earlier left the Club Gimnasia y Esgrima stadium -- where the provincial convention was taking place -- claiming that "there was no democracy" at the meeting.

Early in the afternoon, while supporters of the rival factions were violently struggling to get good locations at the stadium to witness the proceedings, a young woman was wounded in her right leg when a gun was fired.

Juan Garibotto, the Iglesias supporter who was carrying the weapon, said the gun was accidentally fired during the struggle. He told the police that he had drawn his .22 calibre handgun to dissuade an opponent who was allegedly threatening him with a chain. After the shot was fired the police promptly stopped the riot, arrested Garibotto, and took the wounded woman to a hospital.

Gubernatorial Slate Annulled

PY291617 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1402 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpt] La Plata, 27 Aug (NA) -- Federal Electoral Judge Hector de la Serna has approved a motion requesting the annulment of the provincial congress of the Peronist Party. Judge de la Serna also ordered that the party is not to adopt any measures until a final decision is made. The judge's decision was immediately conveyed to Ruben Sarboli, president of the Peronist Party of Buenos Aires Province.

Judge de la Serna thus approved a motion submitted by Antonio Cafiero's supporters, rejecting the congress which proclaimed Herminio Iglesias candidate for Buenos Aires governor last Thursday. The rejection was due to "alleged irregularities" during the congress. The judge ordered a summary proceeding due to the nature of the conflict, and he gave the Iglesias-led faction 2 days to answer the motion. Judge de la Serna will reportedly adopt a final decision after the motion is answered. His decision can be appealed to the National Electoral Court.

The motion requesting the annulment of the large Peronist congress which proclaimed the Iglesias-Amerise ticket was lodged by the Cafiero-led faction yesterday. Cafiero's supporters had also rejected the proclamation at the end of the Peronist congress.

ALENDE, LISANDRO HEAD INTRANSIGENT PARTY TICKET

PY292241 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2237 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (DYN) -- The Intransigent Party (PI) national convention today proclaimed Oscar Alende and Lisandro Vile as presidential and vice presidential candidates, respectively, for the 30 October elections. It also approved a draft party platform which among other things calls for the nationalization of banks, and decreases in the military budget and the land tax.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS ANNOUNCE PRESIDENTIAL TICKET

PY292038 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Aug 83 p 7

[Text] -- DYN - NA -- The Christian Democrat national convention in Cordoba yesterday decided on a Francisco Cerro-Arturo Ponsati presidential ticket for the October elections. Both candidates belong to the Federal Line internal faction, which triumphed yesterday over the Humanism and Liberation nominees Enrique de Vedia and Carlos Auyero by 67 votes to 39. The party by-laws stipulating a two-thirds majority had to be changed to permit the nomination after a fortnight-long convention in Rosario ended in deadlock. Cerro was prevented from accepting the nomination in person by the death of his wife last Friday. Ponsati, a native of Tucuman, made the acceptance speech in which he spoke of constructing a "humanized society ... of love" with full security for human rights, as opposed to "bourgeois capitalism" and "imperialism". De Vedia revealed yesterday that he had been offered the vice-presidential spot on the Intransigent ticket but had refused in the interests of party unity.

GOVERNMENT REPORTS 1982 ARMS SALE TO EL SALVADOR

PY271920 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1258 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (DYN) -- According to a classified executive branch decree that was made public today, the government authorized the General Directorate of Military Industries to export 10,000 automatic FALN rifles, millions of rifle cartridges, pistols, and spare parts for different weapons to El Salvador, only 6 days after the Malvinas war began last year.

The decree, bearing the letter "S" and the number 721, is dated 8 April 1982 and is signed by then President Lieutenant General Leopoldo Galtieri and by the then ministers of foreign affairs, economy, and defense, Nicanor Costa Mendez, Roberto Alemann and Amadeo Frugoli, respectively.

The morning paper LA VOZ published the document today, including photocopies of parts of the decree.

The decree establishes that the sale will be for a total of \$17,204,780, which is "the Buenos Aires FOB price, subject to readjustment on the date of each shipment in keeping with the price fluctuation index reported by the U.S. Department of Trade for Metals and Metal Products."

Concerning the weapons, the decree lists: "Four thousand (4,000) NATO-issue 6.62x51 mm caliber FALN IV (previously known as 11) automatic assault rifles with cartridge clips and shoulder straps."

"Six thousand (6,000) NATO-issue 7.62x51 mm caliber FALN-PARA automatic assault rifles with cartridge clips and shoulder straps."

"Fifty thousand (50,000) cartridge clips for NATO-issue 7.62x51 mm caliber automatic assault rifles."

"Ten thousand (10,000) bayonets with sheaths for 7.62x51 mm caliber automatic assault rifles."

"Two thousand (2,000) NATO-issue 9x19 mm caliber Browning FM pistols with two extra cartridge clips."

"Two thousand (2,000) cartridge clips for 9x19 mm caliber automatic Browning FM pistols."

"Twenty million (20,000,000) NATO-C-type 7.62x51 mm caliber cartridges."

"Four million (4,000,000) NATO-C-type 9x19 mm caliber cartridges."

"Twenty-five thousand (25,000) GME-FMK2 explosive incendiary hand grenades."

"Two thousand (2,000) double purpose explosive fragmentation antitank cavitized 40 mm caliber (PDEF 40) rifle grenades."

"Five thousand (5,000) NATO-issue 7.62x51 mm caliber rifle grenade launcher cartridges."

"Spare parts for FALN rifles for a total of 10 percent of the value of items 1,2,3 and 4."

"Spare parts for Browning pistols for a total of 10 percent of the value of item 5."

"Eight thousand (8,000) NATO-EF-type semi-fixed rounds for 105 mm caliber M2 A2 howitzers, loaded with TNT and instantaneous fuze (PDM 557-a10)."

"Two thousand (2,000) NATO-EF-type semi-fixed rounds for 105 mm caliber m2 A2 howitzers, loaded with TNT and time fuse (MTS 9-M 520)"

"Twenty-five thousand (25,000) FAL cartridge clip boxes capable of carrying two clips each."

Article 3 of the decree empowers the National Customs House administration "to implement the operation hereby authorized as soon as the general direction of Military Industries submits a request indicating the number of packages, trade marks, weight and value;" but without revealing the content.

PRESIDENT COMPLETES SWEARING IN OF CABINETAgriculture, Presidential Secretary Named

PY300150 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] The government has appointed Simon Yampara minister of agriculture and campesino affairs, and Benjamin Miguel Harb presidential secretary general. They were sworn in at the office of President Hernan Siles Zuazo. These appointments complete the cabinet of the government of President Siles.

Finance Minister Takes Office

PY292216 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Finance Minister Fernando Baptista Gumuncio received the office from his predecessor Flavio Machicado during a ceremony held today. Finance Ministry officials and members of the MNRI [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left] participated in the ceremony. The new finance minister is a member of the MNRI.

Baptista Gumuncio and other ministers were sworn in during a ceremony held at Government Palace last Thursday. Baptista Gumuncio officially assumed office today because last Thursday Machicado Saravia was in Santa Cruz participating in an international seminar on Latin America's alternatives in the economic crisis.

The new finance minister stated that he will ratify his close assistants in their posts because his ministry needs the help of professionals to overcome the country's delicate economic and financial situation. In the financial field, the new minister stated that the negotiations with the IMF will continue, but he said that they will be based on the IMF's respect for the sovereign decisions made by the Bolivian Government. The minister also said that a plan including various projects has been drawn up to resolve the country's critical situation, adding that the plan will be analyzed by the economic team. During his first contacts with the press, the new minister said that the plan is not a new economic package but rather a number of overall solutions to the financial problem.

NEO-NAZI TERRORIST LEADER LECLERC EXPELLED

PY270350 Paris AFP in Spanish 1627 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] La Paz, 26 Aug (AFP) — Interior, Migration and Justice Minister Federico Alvarez Plata has confirmed to AFP that the neo-Nazi terrorist Jacques Leclerc, of French nationality, has been expelled from the country. Leclerc left for Paris, France.

Leclerc was one of the leaders of the neo-Nazi group Death's Boyfriends [Los Novios de la Muerte]. Headed by German citizen Joachim Fiebelkorn and Italian citizen Stefano delle Chiaie, this group played a key role in the bloody coup d'etat of 17 July 1980 which put General Luis Garcia Meza in power. Death's Boyfriends, whose members either fled the country or died after being captured, such as Pier Luigi Plagliai (the perpetrator of the attack on the Bologna railroad station) trained ultraright paramilitary groups in Bolivia.

As was the case with the Nazi Klaus Barbie (Altman), who was expelled on 4 February, Leclerc was also expelled because the Bolivian Government regarded him as persona non grata.

GOVERNMENT LIFTS RESTRICTIONS ON MASS MEDIA

PY291243 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Acting Interior Minister Alfonso Marquez de la Plata has reported that the state of siege has been lifted. He added that since the government has decided not to renew the state of emergency measures, the curfew has also been lifted.

Marquez de la Plata also reported that the Defense Ministry had brought legal charges against a weekly because of certain charges that a psychologist made against the Army. In this regard, the acting interior minister categorically stated that at present there are no restrictions concerning the mass media, but he noted that no violations of the laws in force will be allowed.

The acting interior minister added that the Defense Ministry has submitted the pertinent background material to the Second Military District Court so that it may undertake the proper investigation, but that the case will follow ordinary court proceedings.

EXPLOSION FORCES SUSPENSION OF TRAIN TRAFFIC

PY300139 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0022 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 29 Aug (EFE) -- The explosion of a bomb on the railroad tracks between Santiago and Valparaiso forced the suspension of train traffic for 6 hours today.

According to a Carabineros report, a medium-strength bomb went off on the "La Maquina" bridge, located near Yungai station, outside the capital.

The explosion caused the displacement of rails and the destruction of part of the railroad, which took at least 6 hours to repair. Train traffic resumed at 0400.

PINOCHET DENIES DISAGREEMENTS WITH JARPA

PY291920 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1711 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 29 Aug (EFE) -- Addressing a group of ambassadors who started a series of meetings in Santiago today, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet noted that the Chilean Government will continue to implement measures with the objective of restoring full democracy.

The Chilean president noted that "because of the slander that the enemies of Chile have spread, it is necessary to reassert an undeniable fact: The Armed Forces and the military government have sworn to uphold the 1980 Constitution and to comply with the established deadlines to achieve full democracy." Pinochet added that "the transition period leading to full democracy is a difficult path since the people may lose control of the situation."

According to Pinochet, in view of this "the measures I have drafted have created false expectations in some sectors regarding the period of time that the democratization process will entail." Regarding the democratization process, Pinochet added: "The government will not yield to pressures of any kind. This must be a sustained but gradual process."

According to General Pinochet one of the main obstacles for achieving full democracy is the fact that "everybody is in a hurry."

The president also noted that there are no disagreements between Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa and himself, since all the pertinent issues were previously discussed, and since "Interior Minister Jarpa is following my instructions."

Attending the meeting are 16 ambassadors who represent Chile in Europe, Asia and the Americas, the United Nations, and the OAS.

ONOFRE JARPA DISCUSSES GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES

PY291714 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1015 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Aug (DYN) -- Sergio Onofre Jarpa, former Chilean ambassador to Buenos Aires and present Chilean interior minister, has noted here that the Pinochet regime is a constitutional regime.

Upon his arrival yesterday in Buenos Aires where he will say goodbye to Argentine Government officials, Jarpa Reyes said at the Ezeiza International Airport that "the situation in Chile is normal" and that Chileans are on the path to achieving a democratic institutionalization of the country.

According to Jarpa, "there are no deadlines established by Pinochet, there are constitutional deadlines." In this regard, he noted that the plebiscite held in Chile several years ago showed that "the people supported these constitutional deadlines."

Answering persistent questions in this regard, Jarpa noted that the "people must understand that Chile has a constitutional government."

After noting that "everything will be done as soon as possible," he said that "we want all those exiles who have no pending legal problems or any background in terrorist activities to return to Chile as soon as possible."

He stated that Pinochet exercises those powers that "are in keeping with the Constitution," which, moreover, "are the same powers that have been exercised by all Chilean presidents whenever there were emergency situations to confront," but he said that "at present there are no extraordinary measures in force."

Jarpa also stated that in his meetings with opposition parties "no one has requested President Pinochet's resignation." He noted: "No one has discussed the issue with me."

Asked how long it will take to call elections in Chile, he said "it does not matter how many years it takes, but we may hold elections ahead of time although the temporary constitutional clause establishes that elections will be held in 1990." In this regard he said: "We are going to hold elections before the established deadlines but we are interested in the participation of opposition leaders and also in gradually achieving a full democracy."

The Chilean interior minister said that some of the demands made by the opposition have already been complied with while others are under study, and among them he noted the return of exiles and the study on the reinstatement of copper workers. He also said that "there are no problems in having access to the mass media."

He denied that the Pinochet regime had resorted to border incidents to solve internal political problems and he noted that "there is no repression in Chile, but ... what does one mean by repression. It means that if there is vandalism, you have to repress it; but if there is no vandalism, there is no need to repress a thing."

Jarpa stated that Chilean political parties are carrying out normal activities, but that "the government will enforce all possible measures to maintain public order and to avoid violence. Therefore, the government will not be responsible if there are any more deaths."

About the joint statement issued by the Argentine Multiparty Group and the Chilean political forces which calls for the acceptance of the papal proposal, he noted that "the Chilean Government has always supported the need to achieve a prompt solution to the southern border dispute and the signing of a final treaty." Jarpa Reyes concluded by noting that "we are certain to achieve a democratic solution with the participation of the large majority of Chileans who are against the confrontations and civil war that are sought by Marxist minority groups."

Jarpa Downplays Beagle Incidents

PY261645 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2310 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 25 Aug (TELAM) -- Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa Reyes today stated that there are no border problems with Argentina regarding the Beagle Channel. The minister made these remarks at La Moneda Palace, the government house, where he held a meeting with Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer to say farewell before leaving tomorrow for Buenos Aires, where he will talk with Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari and President Reynaldo Bignone.

Schweitzer also gave little importance to the incidents that took place over the past weekend, and the two ministers agreed on this with Rear Admiral John Howard, deputy chief of the Navy staff.

Howard referred to those incidents by saying that what is happening in the sea is similar to what happens on a busy highway. The rear admiral gave little importance to those incidents, stating that they are merely navigational problems.

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY291856 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1447 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 29 Aug (EFE) -- Cesar Godoy Urrutia, former congressman for the Chilean Communist Party, upon returning to Chile today voiced his hope that "this land will change so that a constitutional government may be reestablished."

After spending 8 years in exile, Godoy Urrutia returned to Chile from Mexico in sound physical condition, considering that he is 81 years old. Godoy Urrutia conveyed special greetings to the workers "who have been hurt the most, and who continue to be hurt."

The Communist leader also said that "I am returning to my homeland hoping to exercise all the rights to which a decent citizen is entitled."

Journalist Jorge Uribe arrived on the same plane as Godoy Urrutia. Uribe said that he was returning to his homeland to stay.

FORMER JUSTICE MINISTER RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY271739 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1613 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, Aug 27 (EFE) -- Former Minister of Justice Jaime Castillo Velasco arrived in Santiago today after completing his second period of forced exile, decreed by the government of General Augusto Pinochet. Castillo Velasco, who was included in the last list of exiles allowed to return to the country, arrived after a 24-hour stop in Buenos Aires from Caracas, where he was residing.

The jurist, who continues as the president of the Chilean Commission of Human Rights, was met by his brother Fernando, by Christian Democratic Party President Gabriel Valdes, and by Vice President of the Chilean Commission of Human Rights Maximo Pacheco, along with several hundred members of the Christian Democratic Party.

SOCIALISTS REJECT DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENT

PY280200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2014 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 26 Aug (EFE) -- Top-ranking Socialist Unity Committee leaders have disclosed their position on the present domestic situation.

The point of reference for the Socialist leaders' position is the document signed on 19 April which served as the basis for the reunification of that sector.

During a press conference, the first one in almost 10 years, Socialist Party leaders Aguin Soto, Julio Stuardo, Hernan Vodanovic, and Juan Gutierrez noted that "it is time to halt all clandestine activities so that the people may become aware of our activities despite the risks that this entails."

The Socialist Party leaders reasserted that the Socialist Party "does not uphold a traditional anticommunist position," but, after defining their party as "leftist, nationalist, popular, and Marxist," they noted that the Socialist Party believes that "since historical conditions are different today, the Socialist Party cannot now base its political action on an alliance with the Communist Party."

They added that although socialism "does not reject the communist theory of promoting popular rebellion, the Socialist Party does not support it at present since conditions currently do not exist in Chilean society."

After Interior Minister Jarpa Reyes embarked on a political opening -- he met Thursday with leaders of the Democratic Alliance, the main opposition coalition -- the Socialists stated that they refused to participate in that meeting "because of ethical reasons."

"It is not possible to talk at gunpoint," Socialist leaders said, remarking that "in addition, the sectors that we represent have suffered a lot in the last 10 years and their only aspiration is to see the president of the republic resign his post -- a demand also made by the Alliance -- in order to convene a constituent assembly and install a provisional government."

The Socialists added that they will remain "Democratic Alliance" members because they are for democracy, "provided that organization does not abandon the essential guidelines set forth in its declaration of principles."

"The Socialists claim that the country's main problems are unemployment, starvation, the dismantling of industries, that the people must live in terror and injustice, and the foreign debt."

Concerning the foreign debt, socialism proposes a search for "consensus with Latin American countries with a view toward renegotiating the region's debt, on the basis of a joint effort by all Latin American nations."

The Socialist Party also advocates the implementation of "a broad national emergency plan calling for the replacement of the people and doctrines that have failed, a plan that should be executed by democratic personalities." The leaders reiterated that changing the leaders is an essential precondition "because Pinochet does not want to restore democracy, and the political opening is only in answer to the days of protest staged by the people."

Peaceful protest actions "must continue," they added, "until the current situation changes."

The Socialists also announced that on 4 September, they will "hold a public event to pay tribute to late President Salvador Allende on the 10th anniversary of the holocaust, the first such ceremony in 10 years."

HAVANA REPORTS DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE PROTEST

PA270440 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The Democratic Alliance, Chile's opposition coalition, has said that during its meeting yesterday with Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, it reiterated the demand that Augusto Pinochet, head of the fascist Chilean regime, resign and a provisional government be appointed. They also requested the approval of the bases for the creation of a process of institutionalization.

In a communique issued following the meeting, the Democratic Alliance stated that it has also requested the return of exiles, the lifting of the state of emergency and exceptional laws which the Constitution grants the executive branch, recognition of all political parties, freedom of information and freedom of assembly, and investigation into the deaths that occurred during the recent protest demonstration.

During the fourth protest demonstration of 11 August to reject the fascist Chilean regime, police repression caused 27 deaths. Six hundred people were also wounded and 1,200 arrested.

Describing the meeting with Democratic Alliance, which was also attended by Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno and vicars Sergio Valech and Juan de Castro, Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa said the talks had been useful and interesting. He announced that new meetings will be founded but did specify a date.

The Chilean Democratic Alliance, formed by the rightist Republican, Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Radicals, and Socialists, said that it will go ahead with its decision to hold another protest demonstration on 8 September. This protest demonstration will be very much like the four previous ones.

POLITICAL-MILITARY PACT CONSIDERED NEAR

PY292048 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1733 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Aug (EFE) -- Jorge Batlle Ibanez has told EFE that he believes that an agreement between the Armed Forces and Uruguayan political parties to achieve the democratization of the country is quite near.

Batlle, whose political activities are presently banned, is the leader of the Colorado Party, one of the two largest political parties in Uruguay, in addition to the Nacional or Blanco Party. He had been a presidential candidate twice and is the son of a former Uruguayan president.

The Colorado Party leader said: I believe that the proper conditions are set to achieve a solution before 30 November. Batlle noted that two things are evident: The Uruguayan people have reasserted their will to restore freedom and democracy through four successive plebiscites.

The first plebiscite was held in 1980, at the time the people rejected the constitutional proposal of the civilian-military regime. The second plebiscite was held during the internal party elections in 1982 when the people voted in favor of opposition candidates.

There were two more de facto plebiscites: the huge public greeting last May of Spanish King Juan Carlos as a democratic chief of state; and the national day of protest held on 25 August.

The Uruguayan politician noted: I believe that the government is aware of the national day of protest that was held on Thursday. I believe they heard Montevideo citizens beating pots and pans and saw how house lights were turned off. If not, they are deaf and blind.

He added: Moreover, the situation within the Armed Forces has changed, because within top-ranking decision-making circles there is a large majority that supports the need to seek a solution to the apparent deadlock in the dialogue with political parties.

Batlle noted that the Army, Navy, and Air Force commanders will probably appoint high-ranking officers to draft general guidelines for an understanding.

He added: These general guidelines should avoid useless discussions, such as the famous dialogue held at the Prague Hotel, which nevertheless helped the involved parties fulfill their commitments with the people. He said that other procedures must be used if more specific negotiations are to be undertaken.

Regarding the mediation of Catholic bishops to bring the parties together, Batlle noted that this mediation is welcomed by all since the objective is to try to bring together the competent parties, that is, the Armed Forces and the political parties. However, the Colorado Party leader rejected the first effort made by the Catholic Church to bring together the president and political parties.

Batlle noted that he believes that the present Uruguayan president, Lt General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, is illegally holding office, but not because of reasons of age or because he was not born in the country.

He added: The present president is a government official in charge of representing our country abroad, but he does not comply with the pertinent constitutional provisions.

He said that the Armed Forces are in charge of the process and the only laws in force in Uruguay today are the laws of the Armed Forces. Therefore, they are holding power illegally.

he noted that politicians can only discuss and establish agreements with those who, at the proper time, at the beginning of the process, establish that the seizure of power was an Armed Forces process and commit themselves to restoring democracy.

Batlle noted that the Armed Forces fulfilled their commitment to the people by calling the plebiscite in 1980 and the party elections in 1982. However, he insisted on the necessity of holding the scheduled general elections in November 1984.

Batlle expressed the belief that the Armed Forces are necessary and that despite being a small country, the Uruguay of the future needs a modern and efficient Army because of geopolitical and strategic reasons and because of its geographic situation.

HAVANA CITES ARRESTS DURING DEMONSTRATIONS

PA281754 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Approximately 400 people were arrested in Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital, for participating in protest demonstrations Wednesday and Thursday against the regime of that South American country. Forty-eight of the detainees have been placed at the disposal of the executive branch, to be subjected to immediate security measures, according to a communique issued by the Montevideo police.

TIMELY LOAN PAYMENT SUGGESTS ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PA270240 Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 24 Aug 83 pp 1, 8

[By Isse Nunez]

[Excerpt] In an action that basically represents a sign of our economic recovery, Mexico has paid off, on the due date, a loan for \$1.85 billion that was granted to the country by several European and U.S. central banks a year ago when the crisis was at its worst.

The loan was coordinated by the International Payment Bank of Basel. This is the first time that the bank has arranged a loan for a non-member country.

The payment was reported yesterday by the Bank of Mexico.

DE LA MADRID TERMS PEASANTS NATION'S 'STRENGTH'

FL291829 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1940 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Aug (NOTIMEX) — President Miguel de la Madrid has said that the peasants are the fundamental strength of the nation. He pointed out his administration's unavoidable commitment for an integral agrarian reform.

The president also reaffirmed the alliance between the nation's government and the peasants of Mexico who, he said, are the mainstay of the people's efforts for nutrition and employment.

De la Madrid attended the closing session of the 15th national congress of the National Peasant Confederation (CNC), which he called upon to become a stronger, more dynamic, modern, and honest organization.

At the same ceremony, held at Mexico City's Arts and Letters Palace, Senator Mario Hernandez Posadas, upon assuming the office of secretary general of the CNC, committed himself to satisfying the demands of the CNC's 10 million members.

Hernandez Posadas will lead the CNC, which has been for the last 3 years, an integral part of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), on a program aimed at standardizing the legal ownership of agricultural land, which is tied to promoting a recognition of peasants' rights and opposition to the territorial monopolies (latifundiums).

Thirty-two state organizations will have to be coordinated, which elected him by acclamation. He will propose that the Federal Government set prices for agricultural products before and after harvests.

He added that he will seek alliances with other peasant organizations for the purpose of enriching agrarian legislation to benefit all agricultural workers.

ENERGY SECRETARIAT ON SAN JOSE AGREEMENT

PA261844 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 24 Aug 83 p 6

[Report by Javier Velasquez]

[Text] The San Jose Agreement, by which Mexico and Venezuela agree to supply oil to Central America, is not a weapon for use in shaping those countries' policies. Rather, it is intended to provide an incentive to the region's economy.

This statement was made by the Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry [SEMIP], which pointed out that Mexico will not even retreat one step in implementing its energy policy, regardless of pressure exerted by the world powers for that purpose.

The Energy Secretariat stressed that the terms of the Program for Energy Cooperation for the Countries of Central America and the Caribbean will grant credit for the 1983-84 period equivalent to 20 percent of the countries' debts, for a 5-year period at an 8-percent annual interest rate.

The secretariat commented that these terms will guarantee a daily supply to these countries of up to 160,000 barrels of crude, to be furnished in equal shares by the suppliers.

SEMIP added that when these credit resources are allotted to economic development programs, particularly in the energy sector and those related to regional economic integration, the financing may be extended to a 20-year period, at an annual interest rate of 6 percent.

It mentioned that the agreement, which was initially signed on 3 August 1980, constitutes a source of cohesion among the nations of Central America.

The initial agreement stipulated that the two supplier nations would grant financing for 30 percent of the oil bill for a 5-year period at an annual interest rate of 4 percent.

The energy office pointed out that despite a slightly lower supply than originally forecast, a consequence of prevailing economic problems, the results of the agreement's first year were positive. SEMIP explained that those problems were to blame for the purchasing nations' lower demand, that there were some marginal supplies from other providers, and that in some cases the refineries decided to obtain their crude from other sources.

It emphasized that the Mexican and Venezuelan Governments have decided to apply the same provisions for the agreement's third year as applied to the 1980 program, despite the harsh economic conditions which currently confront them.

In conclusion, SEMIP declared that Mexico and Venezuela have again demonstrated their desire to contribute to world equilibrium and to the search for peace in Central America by supplying crude without pressure or conditions.

COLUMNIST SEES POORER RELATIONS WITH GUATEMALA

PA262032 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 24 Aug 83 p 12

[Article by Adolfo Aguilar Zinser: "Mejia Victores, an Honorary Kaibil"]

[Excerpts] Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the "honorary Kaibil" [name of elite counterinsurgency unit], as his record of honors justly notes, is a member of the group of Guatemalan Army officers which is most hostile to Mexico. Despite studying at our country's Superior War School and his frequent contacts with Mexican militarymen, the new Guatemalan president is a typical example of the monsters produced by Guatemala's ideological military training, which depicts Mexico as one of Guatemala's leading adversaries. The chauvinism, the sense of mission, and the relentless and bloody aggressiveness of the Guatemalan soldiers result from an intensive psychological and political brainwashing that is carried out throughout the military training stage, in life at the barracks, and through countereinsurgency courses.

Guatemalan Army recruits and officers are imbued with a simple and primitive ideology that involves three alienating tenets -- antisubversion, anti-Mexicanism, and the need to recover Belize. A whole world of stimuli and responses is built upon these foundations. Above all, soldiers are taught to hate subversives, communists, and heretics, and they are led to see their dreadful subhuman faces in every guerrilla, guerrilla suspect, and -- increasingly -- the Indians, not excluding the "deceivably" innocent children, women, and elderly people. Thus the rangers' mission is not limited to annihilating their enemies, who are everywhere; their responsibility also includes mauling them amid macabre chanting and well-learned rituals, which may even reach the extreme of cannibalism. This is not a lie. This fact has been fully and convincingly corroborated by countless testimonies from survivors and eyewitnesses of massacres and through exhaustive investigations conducted by international humanitarian groups. With the same combativeness and "Christian and patriotic" commitment to Guatemala, soldiers must be on the alert to defend their country against "Mexican expansionism" and ready to recover the territory of Belize, which was usurped by the British.

Thus far, Mejia Victores has been a vigorous proponent of this aggressive stance. In September 1982, the then Guatemalan defense minister responded to a formal protest that had been lodged by Mexico in August because of the invasion of Mexican territory by Kaibiles and civilian patrols, saying that this was actually the work of guerrillas "who had infiltrated Mexican territory." Later on, in the wake of an incident between a Mexican Navy ship and some Guatemalan fishing boats off that country's coasts in December, Mejia publicly asked for a meeting of the high military command in order to draft a strong and violent response to Mexico. This was opposed by Foreign Minister Carlos Castilla Arriola, who finally settled the matter.

As head of state, Mejia Victores has been unable to conceal his animosity toward Mexico. Speaking about the Contadora Group on 11 August, he said that "Central America's problems must be solved by Central Americans, just as German problems are solved by the Germans and French problems by the French," in a clear allusion to Mexico.

In fact, Mejia Victores is seen not only as an implacable persecutor of the guerrillas but as a fervent advocate of a stronger confrontation with Mexico. This would be intended to build up the Army's morale, to strengthen the people's nationalist feelings, and at the same time to intimidate Mexican Government leaders, in order to obtain increased military cooperation from them, albeit indirect, to control the flow of refugees over the border. His actions as head of state may be ameliorated, however, by the more cautious attitudes of Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran, his foreign minister, who is known as a crafty and astute politician. In any event, increased tension can be predicted between Guatemala and Mexico. No doubt the refugees will be the pretext and the immediate cause of this friction. In view of this, Mexico will have to maintain the calm and responsible attitude that it has demonstrated thus far. However, it must not fall into the temptation of hardening its attitude toward the refugees. It also would not be wise to try to scatter the camps, which would bring about serious tensions with the Indian communities, would make the refugees' return to their country even more difficult, and would disrupt their culture, traditions, and ancestral survival methods.

COLUMNIST SCORES ALLEGED 'ZONIAN' THREAT

PA292008 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 29 Aug 83 p 5

["The People's Compass" column by Adolfo Benedetti: "Provocation in the Canal"]

[Excerpt] D. P. McAuliffe, administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, has cautioned that there will be no extension of privileges granted to U.S. employees after October 1984, as established in Article 3 of the Torrijos-Carter treaty and in Article 13 of the complementary agreement. The "Zonians" have been angered by this just and positive attitude of the canal administration, and have recklessly threatened to paralyze the canal.

This reaction by these people without a country results from their awareness that once they lose the privilege of shopping in the military stores located in the area and of using the military's postal service, they will have to shop in the stores that operate in Panama and use Panama's postal service, which will represent an important benefit to our country's economy.

Their challenge, with its threats and intolerable abuses, is published in the semi-illegal publication UNDERTOW, which circulates among the northern bureaucracy still operating in the sector. The publication notes:

"The administration's decision means that the commission does not deserve our loyalty. From now on we will work as slowly as possible, which means that ships will move very slowly through the canal, and it could get worse. This means that no administrative work will be performed."

All this means that if the canal's vital operation comes to a halt, it will not be the Panamanians who will be responsible, but those who with blatant arrogance are trying to blackmail and intimidate the canal administration in order to uselessly try to maintain colonialist privileges that are unacceptable to both Panama and to the United States.

WORKERS' PARTY DISCLAIMS ESQUIVEL NOMINATION

PA300108 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] The Workers' Socialist Party issued a resolution this afternoon stating that it is not a member of the United People's Front and, therefore, has not nominated Dr Jose Renan Esquivel as the party's presidential candidate. Nevertheless, the resolution signed by Jose Cambra, leader of the Workers' Socialist Party, does not dismiss the possibility of supporting Dr Esquivel after discussing his government program and deciding on their objectives.

In the meantime, Dr Esquivel today categorically denied that he made improper use of Social Security Fund monies while he was in charge of the institution and demanded that the news media be more careful about what they publish.

SOCIAL SECURITY FUND DIRECTOR ARIAS RESIGNS

PA261810 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] This morning Social Security Fund Director Luis Alberto Arias announced to the institution's board of directors that he has decided to resign from the post, which he has held for the past year. Arias said that his irrevocable resignation has been presented to President of the Republic Ricardo de la Espriella. Alberto Barrios, deputy director, has been appointed acting director.

EL SALVADORSTONE TO MEET AGAIN WITH GUERRILLA LEADERS

PA292101 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1849 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 29 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- U.S. special envoy Richard Stone arrived in this city today on his fourth regional tour intended to continue talks with the Salvadoran leftist guerrilla movement.

Stone met this morning with U.S. Embassy officials and is scheduled to meet this afternoon with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana. He arrived here after a brief stop in Honduras. He made no comments to the press.

Stone's next stop will be San Jose, Costa Rica, where he will hold his second meeting with FMLN leader Ruben Zamora, reliable Costa Rican sources told REUTERS. He will also participate in tomorrow's "highly secret" meeting with another ranking guerrilla leader, Guillermo Ungo, and two representatives of guerrilla fighting units, according to the same sources.

MANAGUA CITES FARABUNDO MARTI ON DOMESTIC EMBARGO

PA261720 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador -- The Salvadoran regime has clamped a commercial embargo on several towns in Chalatenango Department, banning the transport of staples there, Radio Farabundo Marti reported today.

The regime took this measure, which affects at least 26,000 people, in the belief that it will keep supplies from reaching the revolutionary forces.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the Salvadoran Defense Ministry has suspended all leave for troops and officers, explaining that this is due to the high degree of tension in the Army's ranks following the unsuccessful offensives against guerrilla positions.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS U.S. ADVISERS' VISIT TO PRISON

PA271223 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Our companeras from the Committee of Political Prisoners, who are currently in Ilopango, have informed us that on the morning of 13 August, two U.S. advisers arrived at this center to inspect the installations where our companeras are being detained.

The two U.S. advisers carefully inspected all of the dormitories and interrogated our companeras. When our companeras demanded their identifications, one of the gringos sarcastically replied that he was Richard Stone's envoy.

Our courageous companeras condemn Dr Rafael Valladares, the director of Penal Centers, for authorizing the visit by these gringo advisers, who are meddling in our country's affairs, even in matters that do not concern them. They also warn that the arrival of these U.S. advisers is a prelude to the application of further repressive measures against them at the penal center, because they have never bowed down before the dictatorship.

They end their communique by reiterating their indomitable determination to make their prison a revolutionary trench.

VENCEREMOS ON DEMORALIZED ARMY, CONDECA PLAN

PA251621 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] The availability of planes, vessels, and helicopters has not raised the morale of the puppet regime's Army. The demoralization and fear of imminent defeat is such that it is not assuaged by a mere change of dictators in Guatemala, the installation of training bases in Honduras, or the offer made by Israel -- despite its history of invasion and genocide -- to send more advisers and weapons.

Ronald Reagan's daring and aggressive posture, while threatening and showing the bloody beak of hawks, is not enough to lessen Vides Casanova's fears, much less frighten Guatemalan, Nicaraguan, or Salvadoran revolutionaries, who know victories and the unmistakable path of the people's triumph.

Vides Casanova seeks relief by requesting the revival of the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, which was unsuccessful from the very beginning due to regional oligarchic struggles. CONDECA includes the Guatemalan Army, which is divided internally and confronts the growth and consolidation of the Guatemalan brothers' liberation movement, which increases its arms supplies daily and inflicts stronger blows on the genocidal Army.

Vides Casanova has the support of the Honduran Army, which has been assigned a very tough mission by imperialism to be the policeman and the cannon fodder for the glorious and powerful Sandinist People's Army. However, it seems General Vides Casanova believes in miracles and has already forgotten that CONDECA could not stop the triumph of the Sandinist revolution, nor could it stop the large-scale growth and development of our guerrilla movement, which has become the people's army of the FMLN and has placed him on the verge of a most definite military defeat.

No, Gen Vides Casanova, CONDECA will not work; interventionist maneuvers will not work; the triumph belongs to the Central Americans, to the armed people, and there is no time for miracles.

VENCEREMOS DENOUNCES 'CRIMINAL MERCENARIES'

PA260435 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Commentary: "Domingo Monterrosa's Paid Assassins"]

[Text] There is an organization in the United States called Soldier of Fortune, whose job is to hire criminal mercenaries who, for a few thousand dollars, will serve any dictatorship in the world.

The chief of the fortune-seeker mercenaries recently announced in the United States that some of his soldiers have been hired by the Salvadoran Army -- by the most criminal of its forces, the Atlacatl Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Domingo Monterrosa. Once this was known, Domingo Monterrosa, the executioner of El Mozote, had no choice but to admit that mercenaries had joined the ranks of the Atlacatl Battalion.

Why is the dictatorship increasing the number of mercenaries in the Army? Defense Minister Vides Casanova gave the answer when he disclosed that the FMLN had inflicted more than 7,500 casualties on the dictatorship's Army and that at least 2,000 soldiers had been captured by our forces, who never again rejoined the Army once we gave them back their freedom.

The reason the dictatorship is hiring more mentally-ill, bloodthirsty war veterans is because of the high casualties and low morale within the Salvadoran Armed Forces. This is just the beginning. An increasing number of mercenaries, psychopathic foreigners, will be coming to our country to massacre our people.

Just imagine -- what can we expect from the Atlacatl Battalion, which is known throughout the world for its murderous nature, now that Monterrosa's mercenaries have joined its ranks?

The millions of dollars that the Reagan administration is giving to the dictatorship are invested in hiring the most despicable murderers. Yet there is no money to buy milk or meet the people's urgent needs.

The mercenaries will not save the dictatorship. They did not save other dictatorships and puppet regimes, which finally collapsed as a result of the liberation struggles. The mercenaries who fought in Angola and Nicaragua could not prevent the people's victory in those countries.

Mercenaries are without any morals, honor, or principles. They do not represent a force capable of stopping the advance of the FMLN and its revolutionary army, comprised of hundreds of men with a clear view of the ideal of freedom for which they are struggling.

The mercenaries hired by the dictatorship will quit when they realize that the dictatorship is lost, that is, if they do not die before quitting while fighting our forces.

The existence of mercenaries in the Army speaks for itself regarding the dictatorship's military crisis as a result of the enormous erosion of the puppet Army. The dictatorship is selling our sovereignty, our economy, our destiny, and our Army to foreign mercenaries.

VENCEREMOS, FARABUNDO MARTI ON RECENT OPERATIONS

PA270420 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Our guerrilla units are staging operations throughout the country. Here is a report from Santa Ana, in the western part of the country:

On 24 August, FMLN guerrilla columns ambushed a paramilitary patrol of the dictatorship coming from the place known as Las Lomas, [name indistinct]. As a result of this effective ambush, two paramilitarymen were killed and two rifles recovered, while the rest of the group fled.

This is well-deserved punishment for paramilitarymen who claim to be members of the Civil Defense, but who style themselves death squads when they kill innocent people. We will not let these individuals rest anywhere in our nation as long as they continue using extreme brutality against our people.

We send greetings to our fellow combatants in the northern part of the country who conducted this effective operation under the leadership of Mauricio.

Meanwhile, also from Morazan, we have been informed that our people's militias still control the towns of [name indistinct] and Cacaopera, with the support of units of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade. This week's fighting near Cacaopera has resulted in numerous army casualties and, consequently, this town will remain under our control. The dictatorship's forces finally gave up after the FMLN attacked an enemy squad with 120-mm mortars. They decided to withdraw, in view of the aggressiveness of the FMLN militiamen.

Meanwhile, Sociedad remained under our control, and the enemy did not show up.

This week, our forces raided and took control of part of the military route linking Santa Rosa de Lima and San Miguel, in the area known as Flamenco canton. In this area, our troops clashed with dictatorship forces, inflicting many casualties on the enemy, and seizing several government vehicles.

Actions in Morazan

PA260330 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] As we have already reported, on Wednesday, 17 August, units of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade and of the revolutionary militias occupied Tosegal in Morazan Department. Since then, FMLN forces have been in control of the village. Here are reports on activities carried out by our forces in the region:

On Thursday, 18 August, FMLN forces set up a roadblock on the road to Flamenco, near Jocoro, on the San Miguel-Santa Rosa de Lima highway. The enemy did not show up. After searching an official car, our forces left.

On Saturday, 20 August, we again set up our revolutionary roadblock in the same place. The enemy did not dare show up. Instead, it sent a helicopter to strafe our positions.

On Monday, 22 August, early in the morning, we set up the roadblock at the same place on the road the Army is supposed to use. We took up positions along the hillsides of Flamenco Hill. The enemy sent two companies from Santa Rosa de Lima and 80 soldiers from Jocoro, whom we engaged in violent combat in Flamenco canton and [words indistinct]. After a while, our forces gradually retreated in an organized manner without any casualties. Two helicopters were sent to Jocoro to pick up the casualties we inflicted on the puppet Army. Our forces also searched an official vehicle and stopped a truck carrying 20 barrels of diesel fuel and 8 barrels of gasoline.

On Tuesday, 23 August, in the afternoon, we again occupied the same sector of the road used by the Army, but the enemy did not show up.

On Wednesday, 24 August, in the morning, we carried out the same operation, but the enemy was already in Flamenco canton and our forces took positions along the road to Flamenco, right in front of the enemy's forces in La Valencia Hill. The enemy's reinforcements arrived in the afternoon from Santa Rosa de Lima, and we engaged them in sporadic shoot-outs. [Words indistinct] our forces withdrew to new positions without any casualties.

On Thursday, 25 August, forces of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade were still in Sociedad, Morazan Department.

FMLN forces recaptured the town of Cacaotera, Morazan Department. On Thursday, 18 August, forces of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade occupied Cacaotera and also the villages of Las Crucitas, Tierra Blanca, and Ocotillo, all in Morazan Department.

On Friday, 19 August, the dictatorship Army's Lenca Battalion advanced from Yoloaiquin, Delicias de Concepcion, and Osicala and engaged our forces on Clarin Hill. The enemy had artillery and air support. Our forces withdrew after 30 minutes to new positions east of Cacaotera. The enemy did not advance any further. The enemy suffered several casualties in this clash, including two killed, and then took revenge on the defenseless civilian population by killing four villagers.

On Saturday, 20 August, the enemy advanced with two companies along the road from Cacaotera to Corinto. We engaged them in combat east of Ocotillo, next to Chucuyo Hill. On this occasion our forces made the enemy retreat after 30 minutes of violent combat.

On Monday, 22 August, early in the morning, our forces harassed the enemy's positions in Las Crucitas. Subsequently, our forces launched an artillery attack on the enemy's positions on Cementerio and Clarin Hills, with 120-mm mortars.

On Wednesday, 24 August, FMLN forces recaptured Cacaotera and the surrounding areas in the morning.

The Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front Command reports that the forces of our Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade are still in Cacaotera, Morazan Department.

Murder of Five Peasants Reported

PA270433 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Radio Venceremos has learned that five peasants were killed on 17 August by the genocidal dictatorship troops in (Las Venturas) village, Volcan canton, jurisdiction of Delicias de Concepcion, Morazan Department. Reports from Cacaguatique Volcano note that soldiers of the Lenca Battalion's 4th Company killed a group of individuals for no valid reason, among them [name indistinct] Vasquez Isabel Corea, Juan Avila, and Evisabel Avila. They all belonged to an evangelical sect.

Activities in Guazapa

PA281719 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Our army has scored new victories over the puppet Army in Guazapa. Listen closely to this report from Guazapa:

According to a preliminary report received from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front, heavy fighting is currently taking place in the area of the Guazapa Volcano.

An initial report indicates that in the violent clashes that took place on the morning of 27 August alone, the FMLN forces destroyed 2 enemy armored vehicles and inflicted 30 casualties on the puppet Army.

On the morning of Saturday, 27 August, revolutionary forces ambushed a military convoy of five armored vehicles on the new road that connects San Martin with Suchitoto. Our forces destroyed two of these vehicles with RPG-2's.

The subsequent fighting involved the rest of the enemy troops who, supported by a helicopter gunship, maneuvered to prevent the destruction of the remaining vehicles.

We are currently expecting additional information on Guazapa. We are trying to contact our companeros, because important battles are currently being fought at heroic Guazapa Hill. While we await additional information from Guazapa, we will report on the situation at that heroic volcano in the last few days.

On 25 August, the enemy was confronted in (Copalchan). One enemy company was decimated, while others, which tried to maneuver, were also dealt heavy blows. Some 89 casualties were inflicted on the Cazadores Battalion of the 1st Infantry Brigade, which is commanded by Colonel Adolfo Oneciforo Blandon, and on the Atlacatl Brigade forces.

Meanwhile, at dawn on Friday, 26 August, an action coordinated by a part of our sappers' force was carried out against several electrical towers, and power was thus interrupted in a large part of the country, which dealt a hard blow to the dictatorship's war economy.

These actions have been carried out on Guazapa Hill, where heavy fighting is currently taking place.

Here is additional information from Guazapa: On Saturday, 27 August, armored FMLN units launched a well-aimed attack with 81-mm mortars against the military base at (El Roblar), at Guazapa Volcano. At the time of our attack, both Col Blandon and Colonel (Zepeda) were at the base, and thus personally felt the well-aimed attack from mortars recovered from the very forces of their puppet Army. This attack on the command post of the Army's troops in Guazapa proves the failure of the new enemy operation at that heroic volcano, which has once again defeated the enemy Army. The coordination of the joint FMLN forces at Guazapa will defeat this new operation launched by Col "Traffic Light" Blandon ["semaforo," a play on the name "Oneciforo"], who was ridiculed today when our forces, which he claimed to have dislodged, attacked his command post with well-aimed 81-mm mortar fire.

Radio Venceremos will continue to report on all developments at Guazapa Hill, where we have dealt harsh blows to the enemy, both on the new road and in the important military center at (El Roblar), on this 27 August.

Farabundo Marti on Guazapa Clash

PA292020 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT
29 Aug 83

[Text] The inept puppet Colonel Oneciforo Blandon, along with Colonel (Zepeda) and their entire command post, fled in shameful confusion yesterday, Saturday, 27 August.

Our artillery units yesterday attacked the enemy command post located at (El Roblar), the highest point of Guazapa Hill, with 81-mm mortars.

The weakling Blandon and his entire command post trembled before our guerrilla fire. The armed people have worn them down, and we are showing them that at Guazapa they will always find defeat.

On that same day, Saturday, 27 August, FMLN revolutionary units ambushed two armored vehicles belonging to the puppet Army, which were traveling on the new road from San Martin to Suchitoto. According to preliminary reports, we caused the enemy 30 casualties in this successful revolutionary operation. Demoralized, beaten and discouraged by our RPG-2's, they had to ask for the support of helicopters, which overflew the area, firing rounds in the midst of their dead and injured.

With firm steps and accurate blows, the guerrilla army advances toward the taking of power.

HAVANA REPORTS ON GUERRILLA MILITARY ACTIONS

New Offensive Noted

FL261950 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1802 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The Salvadoran guerrillas have intensified their harrassment and attack operations against Army positions in various areas of the country, killing several soldiers, Radio Venceremos has reported. The voice of the FMLN said that in the last few days the rebels increased their ambushes against Army patrols and intensified sabotage activity against targets of the regime's war economy.

Besides these attacks, the rebels occupied a town in Morazan, took control of Sesori, San Luis de la Reina, and Carolina in San Miguel Department for several hours, and destroyed a bridge in Usulután. In all these operations the Salvadoran insurgents inflicted six casualties on the regular troops.

Military sources in San Salvador admitted that Salvadoran guerrillas killed three members of a paramilitary group and wounded two others in an ambush set up in Santa Ana Department. They added that heavy fighting between the guerrillas and the regime's special battalions was under way on the slopes of Chichontepec Volcano in San Miguel Department. The outcome of these battles is still unknown.

An Army spokesman said that the Salvadoran Armed Forces are facing a serious crisis in the acquisition of food supplies, particularly for battle stations, due to the misappropriation of funds on the part of the officers and the fact that the United States does not defray the cost of Army food supplies.

Meanwhile, it was announced that another contingent of 175 cadets have completed their special antiguerrilla training course in Fort Benning, Georgia.

Chalatenango Towns Occupied

PA251823 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] The FMLN has reported that its forces occupy 29 of the 33 municipalities in Chalatenango, and that in recent clashes in that department, the Army sustained more than 200 casualties, dead and wounded.

It also reported that the regime's Air Force continues to bomb densely populated areas near Chichontepec in San Vicente Department, where special counterinsurgency battalions — Ramon Belloso and Atlacatl — are trying in vain to displace rebel positions.

The armed clashes between the Army and insurgent forces have spread to nearby El Cumbo Hill by the El Burro bridge, which was dynamited by the guerrillas this weekend.

For its part, the Armed Forces Press Committee reported the arrival of 175 troops trained at Fort Benning, where another 350 soldiers are now training.

It has been learned that Victorino Andreto, a 27-year-old Italian, was shot and killed on the Panamerican Highway as his vehicle went through a military checkpoint at km 79 near the Quebrada Seca bridge.

Clashes in Chichontepec

PA270025 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Intense combat has taken place for the third consecutive day on the hillsides of Chichontepec Volcano, San Vicente Department, where the Army reported it had wiped out the guerrillas. Colonel Dionisio Hernandez, the military commander of San Vicente Department, admitted that it has been impossible to defeat the rebels even with the participation of combined forces from several garrisons and U.S.-trained special battalions in the counterinsurgency operations. The Army is using heavy artillery and Air Force support in this fighting.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH MEXICAN COUNTERPART

PA292306 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] It has been learned that Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran reportedly met with his Mexican colleague Bernardo Sepulveda this weekend. Andrade Diaz-Duran, who became foreign minister on 16 August, traveled to Mexico on Friday or Saturday. According to information obtained by our reporters, the meeting was informal, with an open agenda, to discuss matters of national interest.

According to reports, the meeting took place in Cancun, and the Guatemalan foreign minister returned to Guatemala today, Sunday.

GOVERNMENT SOURCES REPORT STATE COUNCIL CHANGES

PA292313 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Government sources have reported during the past few hours that a resolution has been prepared whereby Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, through the powers granted him by Articles 4, 14, and 46 in Clause 5 of the Basic Government Statute -- which was modified by Decree Laws No 3682 and 8783 -- will order that Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias be removed from the office of State Council president.

The report states that the measure will be effective 1 September, with Dr Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela, who is currently vice president of the ranking advisory organization, taking office as State Council president.

The El Independiente newscast was told that Ricardo Umana Aragon will become State Council vice president.

OPPOSITION CALLS FOR ELECTIONS, TAX REFORM

PA292300 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1851 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 29 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Opposition political leaders today publicly asked Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores to schedule general elections promptly and to implement tax reform.

Amid growing opposition stemming from the similarity of his domestic policies with those of his predecessor, Efraim Rios Montt, Gen Mejia Victores' administration today begins its 4th week at the head of the military regime.

According to political observers, opposition has been growing with the fear that the Army is seeking to entrench itself in power, while political leaders are demanding civilian participation.

Within this framework, Vinicio Cerezo, secretary general of the Guatemalan Christian Democracy (DCG), requested in a memo to the president today that he set the date for presidential elections.

Meanwhile, the country's four strongest political parties have expressed reservations regarding the validity of the talks being held with Gen Mejia Victores, which began last Tuesday in order to continue the so-called "political opening." These opposition groups, which comprise the "multiparty" group, are reviewing, among other issues, the request for the scheduling of the presidential elections.

The same climate of criticism toward the government has been expressed by the 30 political party committees, which have requested that the president speed up legal procedures for the registration of their parties.

HONDURAS

DEFENSE SECRETARY CITED ON REVIVAL OF CONDECA

PA291955 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] It has been announced that there will be a restructuring of the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, which was created 20 years ago to fight the communist threat.

CONDECA was created in December 1963 by Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Its purpose is cooperation in the defense of the Central American isthmus. The organization includes the creation of a joint staff, the adoption of common defense measures, and the establishment of a Central American defense doctrine.

The Central American military organization began to break up in 1969 as a result of the 4-day war between Honduras and El Salvador. Its final demise came 10 years later, when the Somoza regime was ousted by the FSLN guerrillas.

National Defense and Public Security Secretary Col Amilcar Castillo Suazo has said that efforts are already being made to reactivate this military institution.

ARMY LOOKING FOR REBELS REPORTEDLY IN OLANCHO

PA300123 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Aug 83 p 4

[Text] Some 500 soldiers are combing the mountains of Olancho Department for guerrillas reported to be in the area, military sources told TIEMPO on Saturday, 27 August.

The operation, which is also being supported by helicopters, has been going on since last week when military authorities received reports of the presence of rebels in the region from three presumed rebel deserters, according to an anonymous source.

According to the alleged deserters' report, at least 76 guerrillas are in the area. They entered Honduran territory through the Patuca range from Nicaragua, after being trained in Cuba.

It was reported that the soldiers who are conducting the combing operation in the Olancho mountains distributed pamphlets among the residents, urging the population to denounce the guerrillas.

According to another source, the Army members pressure peasants, warning them of the consequences if they do not report the guerrillas' presence to the authorities.

The combing operations are being carried out in a rugged jungle area where the terrain makes the mission difficult.

However, the military source said that the Armed Forces are confident "they can destroy the seeds" of the massive revolutionary movement being planted in Honduras.

Another sector where the presence of guerrillas has been reported is Monjaras, in Choluteca Department. A group of alleged rebels was discovered in the region by the authorities after they received reports from some local residents, the source said.

The same source added that a military contingent has moved to that sector to find the alleged subversives, who are "well armed," according to reports from Monjaras residents.

HAVANA CITES CINCHONEROS ON BOMB EXPLOSIONS

PA291736 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] The Cinchoneros People's Liberation Movement of Honduras has claimed responsibility for the explosion of three bombs in three Honduran cities. A communique released by the Cinchoneros affirmed that several of its commands carried out the actions to express the Honduran people's repudiation of U.S. intervention in Central America.

One of the bombs exploded in a 14-story building under construction in the city of San Pedro Sula, while two other bombs damaged the installations of the U.S. transnational firm Standard Fruit Company in La Ceiba, and the Tela Railroad Company in La Lima.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SCORES U.S. ECONOMIC BOYCOTT, ARMS SUPPLIES

PA292319 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, Government Junta coordinator, said during the inauguration of the Patricio Arguello Geothermal Plant that the U.S. Government is seeking to boycott our economy and, to this end, arms counterrevolutionary troops to carry out terrorist acts in Nicaragua.

Ortega said that State Security has thwarted counterrevolutionary plots to bomb and sabotage the Momotombo Geothermal Project. He said that despite all the maneuvers and attacks by the Reagan administration, the Nicaraguan people will continue working with the same fortitude as the heroes of the Pancasan revolutionary struggle.

DEL VALLE CONVEYS CASTRO MESSAGE TO DOCTORS

FL291407 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] A greeting from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to the doctors and other Cuban health personnel in Nicaragua was transmitted on Sunday by Dr Sergio del Valle, member of the Politburo and Cuban Public Health Minister. Dr del Valle paid visits to collectives of internationalist health workers in Granada and Masaya.

In transmitting Fidel's message, Sergio del Valle recalled that the commander in chief has described their work as beautiful and splendid. In addition to contributing to the development of health in Nicaragua, the Cuban professionals are expanding their knowledge because they can treat tropical diseases that are not common in Cuba.

Sergio del Valle presided over the graduation ceremony of some 200 Cuban interns who received their diplomas as medical doctors. They graduated together with several Nicaraguan doctors.

BORGE SAID IMPLICATED IN DRUG TRAFFICKING OPERATION

PA281918 Costa Rica LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Aug 83 p 14

[Unattributed commentary: "Borge Implicated in Drug Traffic"]

[Text] When the Canadian police arrested a Nicaraguan diplomat accused of drug trafficking on 23 July, they thought the case was a simple one. However, when they questioned the prisoner, they realized that they had just touched the tip of a huge iceberg, whose dimensions have not yet been clearly determined.

It all began when Rodolfo Palacios Talavera, first secretary at the Nicaraguan Embassy, left a briefcase in the waiting room of a carwash in Ottawa. The employee who opened the briefcase to find out who owned it discovered an unregistered pistol and cocaine worth \$10,000 in it. The employee called the police, who arrested Palacios when he returned to retrieve his briefcase.

Palacios claimed diplomatic immunity, but the police told him that the Nicaraguan Embassy had told the Canadian Government that his services at the embassy had ended on 12 July. The police refused to grant him immunity, therefore, and kept him in jail until 28 July, when Canadian television viewers saw him being taken handcuffed to court by the police.

The Nicaraguan Embassy lodged a violent protest, arguing that even though Palacios was no longer part of the embassy personnel, he still had diplomatic immunity. The police were soon to learn that the vehemence of the Nicaraguan complaint did not result from merely official concern. There was more to the diplomatic concern over the misdemeanor by a minor government official: Palacios knew enough to implicate high-ranking officials, not only in the Nicaraguan Government but in the Cuban Government, in an important drug and arms traffic operation.

The charge is nothing new. In early 1982, drug trafficker Johnny Crump publicly testified that his colleague, Jaime Guillot, a notorious member of the mafia, had collaborated with the Cuban Government and the FSLN's leaders, who had helped Guillot smuggle cocaine into the eastern United States to recompense him for having helped smuggle weapons and ammunition to the 19 April Movement terrorists in Colombia.

It sounds incredible, but when the accusation was made public, many who sympathized with Fidel Castro and the FSLN were already justifying this government involvement in the drug traffic with the allegation that it was not for personal profit, but for a revolutionary purpose. They agreed with Lenin's idea that anything that promotes the revolutionary cause is morally sound. Drug traffic must be regarded as proper if it provides money and weapons for the Marxist terrorists.

However, these sympathizers will find it difficult to justify the drug traffic that resulted from this initial experience, because Palacios has disclosed that the operation served to whet the appetite of the FSLN leaders, who immediately realized that their official positions were not only opening doors and bringing volunteers, but were also a shield or protective wall against the risks faced by other men who are engaged in this dirty business.

The Canadian police have said nothing yet about the information they obtained from Palacios. However, some details that have leaked out are largely confirmed by a letter that they received a short time ago from another drug trafficker who was implicated by Palacios. The trafficker wants to ensure that the information supplied by Palacios is confirmed to those who have the power to punish him.

The author of the letter says that Palacios is but a small link in a huge drug trafficking operation. He says that the FSLN is again involved, but because of a personal desire for profit, rather than for revolutionary reasons. The person that is most deeply involved is none other than Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge.

According to the letter, a short time ago Borge sent a trusted aide to arrange a deal with a drug trafficker that would allow the Colombians to use certain Caribbean islands, including Corn Island, as stopping places on the drug trafficking routes to the United States.

The drugs that were confiscated by the police had been received by Palacios from such a stopping place.

In turn, Borge would annually receive half of the profits from a given number of drug deliveries for guaranteeing the use of Corn Island by the Colombians.

Borge is now making arrangements for Cuba to help the Colombians, but Palacios could not confirm whether the arrangements have been concluded.

This is a grave matter, meriting close attention from the people of this hemisphere. The Sandinist government is tightly protected against any disclosure of these activities. LA PRENSA of Nicaragua has been gagged, the judges and police are powerless, and international investigatory organizations are either banned from entering Nicaragua or are under the absolute control of the Nicaraguan Government. In general, what the world knows about the Sandinist government is just what the Sandinist government wants it to know.

Had it not been for the incident involving Palacios, Borge could have gone on with this dirty business indefinitely, while presenting himself to the Nicaraguan people as a struggler for the masses' well-being. Furthermore, if Tomas Borge is so deeply involved in drug trafficking, similar activities at other government levels must be nothing new or unusual.

Let us hope that other governments in this hemisphere will awaken and see the danger in such actions by one government. No country is safe against these acts when the profits are so huge and when the traffickers are high-ranking government leaders who act with impunity.

CIUDAD SANDINO VIEWED AS 'EXAMPLE' FOR SOMOZISTS

PA300201 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 26 Aug 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Ciudad Sandino: Another Example"]

[Text] From the viewpoint of a news story, the counterrevolutionary attack -- and the subsequent patriotic reply -- on Ciudad Sandino is another attempt by imperialism to establish a "liberated territory" as a base for its undisguised aid to the counterrevolution. But there are very specific political elements that imperialism has not taken into account.

One of those elements is the civil self-defense of the border communities, which on more than one occasion has proven more real and forceful than the simple concept of defense. When a town undertakes its own defense and, furthermore, turns this into a crushing defeat for the aggressors, that town has to be fully identified with the patriotic objectives of the Sandinist people's revolution. This also demonstrates the lack of a social base for imperialism's counterrevolutionary plans. Imperialism stupidly attempts to create artificial zones of "support" in order to give a false image of the Nicaraguan reality abroad.

Nevertheless, the facts can no longer be ignored by counterrevolutionary leaders and their imperialist bosses. San Rafael del Norte and now Ciudad Sandino -- and Jalapa on several occasions -- are examples for even the most obstinate enemies of the revolution. But imperialism and its lackeys do not have many alternatives, so such attacks will be repeated.

Therefore we must improve mechanisms of defense in all areas as the best guarantee of the Somozists' continued defeat. We must also prepare for further aggression and armed incursions. We note another tactic: creating an atmosphere of social-political crisis, producing the image imperialism needs to politically justify the unleashing of larger-scale aggression.

The Social Christian position on the Patriotic Military Service Bill and the withdrawal of its representative from the commission studying that law fall within the framework of those efforts. The "reasons" for its stance are, not surprisingly, the same as Washington's.

The views and the practice of defense are strengthened by the examples of Jalapa, San Rafael, and Ciudad Sandino. In the face of political and armed aggressions aimed at provoking us, we must strengthen our ideological vision and increase political vigilance against our enemies.

ARDE GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES WAR BULLETIN NO 55

PA251739 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity, Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, and Sandino Revolutionary Front War Bulletin No 55; dated 24 August]

[Text] The General Command of the Armed Forces of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] informs the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

1. At 1200 on 22 August 1983, a patrol of the ARDE armed forces led by Companero Felix Colmillo ambushed a patrol of the pro-Soviet Army in San Ramon, Nueva Guinea, inflicting on them 3 dead and 5 wounded in an exchange of rifle fire.
2. Among those killed was a Cuban mercenary dressed in the uniform of the border troops. His identity is being investigated in order to confirm it fully.
3. We have no casualties to report among our ranks; we recovered no war supplies.
4. This clash is one among the many carried out during the month of August in the Atlantic coast area, in the south, and in the cities and villages where our internal resistance gathers greater strength each day. Our actions continue to be closely linked with the task of freeing the homeland from the new tyranny and from the new foreign intervention to which those who hold power are attempting to subordinate the Nicaraguan people, behind the backs of the majority. Consequently, they confront daily our devotion to the struggle, with our renewed faith and proud nationalism.

Without totalitarianism, or a return to the past! Free fatherland or death!

Mountains of Nicaragua, 24 August 1983

General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces

VOICE OF SANDINO ASKS RIVAS TO JOIN STRUGGLE

PA250455 Clandestine Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Attention, brothers of Rivas. Attention, Rivas. In a few days our internal resistance expects your participation in the struggle to recover our revolution.

We are struggling against the regime of terror with the same courage shown by Emanuel Moncada y Rubio. The hour to steel ourselves is near.

For the liberty of Nicaragua, the struggle continues. Our fatherland is in flames!

BRIEFS

375 STUDENTS TO CUBA -- While 300 youths who graduated from technical schools in Cuba are being placed in various government positions, another 375 will leave between 19 and 27 August, making a total of 2,000 Nicaraguan students studying in Cuba. According to Maria Elena Canales, the official in charge of the scholarship program of the Education Ministry, some 1,000 Nicaraguan youths are now studying at high schools in Cuba. Others are taking preparatory college courses, and two are enrolled in Cuban universities. Canales said that 20 youths are being trained for professional careers in various other countries and receive between \$150 and \$250 monthly. Twenty others have returned and are employed in state institutions. [Excerpts] [Managua El NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Aug 83 p 6 PA]

SPD YOUTH SUPPORT -- In the next few days, the youth of the FRG's Social Democratic Party will propose to the Socialist International the formation of a coalition of nonaligned socialist democratic countries "to stop a U.S. war against Nicaragua." The announcement was made in Managua today by Rudolph Hartung, the group's president, who said that the Reagan administration is hindering the efforts of the Contadora Group. He said that the group will soon donate \$100,000 for the construction of a cement plant in Masaya, where 16 youths from that political organization led by Willy Brandt are doing voluntary work. [Summary] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2029 GMT 25 Aug 83 PA]

SUGAR EXPORTS -- Nicaraguan Sugar Enterprise, ENAZUCAR, sources have reported that more than \$32 million worth of sugar and molasses have been exported so far this year. The sources said that up to 30 July, \$31,215,000 was earned from the export of sugar to the United States, Mexico, Algeria, and the USSR. Up to 30 July, ENAZUCAR exported 51,783 tons of molasses worth \$1,614,000 to Bulgaria. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Aug 83 PA]

COTTON FINANCING -- The Nicaraguan Government has granted a \$100-million loan to private cotton producers for the cultivation of 106,500 hectares of the plant for the 1983-84 season. Seventy-four percent of the \$136.9 million credit budgeted for this sector for the same period has already been granted. [Summary] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2016 GMT 25 Aug 83 PA]

HAVANA COMMENTS ON STONE'S C.A. MISSION

FL292016 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] The Central American situation remains at the center of attention of international news agencies. While the United States is making its largest ever military deployment in the area, it has been learned that Richard Stone is making his third tour of Central America.

Stone, President Ronald Reagan's special envoy, is on a 10-day tour of several Central American countries. The Yankee State Department is trying to present the trip as a peace mission, but it would be the foreshadowing of new aggressive actions.

This envoy of Reagan's had no scruples in threatening Nicaragua and the Salvadoran guerrilla forces on previous occasions. On his last trip to El Salvador, Stone stated that the Yankee warships could be used for attack.

The White House's position on the Salvadoran problem is also known. Ronald Reagan harbors hopes for a military solution. Nevertheless, speculation has arisen about a possible meeting between Stone and Salvadoran guerrilla forces in Costa Rica.

If this meeting occurs, a dialogue would advance somewhat, and the Salvadorans could state directly to the principle supporters of the genocidal regime their position, which is a determinant in the possible solution to the crisis.

The Salvadoran rebels are insisting on a negotiated solution to the conflict, which has caused more than 30,000 deaths in the last 3 years. This attitude, besides being unanimous, is also brave, because it does not exclude the continuation of the war until the total liberation of the country, in case the genocidal regime and its Yankee masters do not accept the revolutionaries' conditions.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MALMIERCA'S POLISH VISIT

FL291603 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1414 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Poland and Cuba have expressed deep concern at the increase in world tension caused by the arms and confrontation policies of the United States, states a joint communique made public in Warsaw. The document was issued at the conclusion of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's official and friendly visit to Poland.

The Cuban foreign minister and Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski rejected the proposed deployment of the new Yankee missiles in Western Europe, labeling this a threat to peace and security in the old continent and the world. Malmierca and Olszowski demonstrated their satisfaction with the results achieved at the Madrid Conference on European Security and Cooperation and advocated in this respect the holding of a dialogue among all states regardless of their origin and social systems.

The foreign ministers of Poland and Cuba reaffirmed their firm support of the Sandinist revolution, and condemned U.S. Government's intervention in the internal affairs of the Central American countries.

The joint communique, made public at the conclusion of Malmierca's official visit to Warsaw, condemns the Zionist and South African governments for their aggressions, especially against the peoples of Lebanon and Angola.

The document, which was signed by Malmierca and Oszowski, shows concern for the seriousness of the conflict in Chad and highly praises the positive role played by the Non-aligned Movement for international peace and the easing of tensions.

During his 5-day visit to Poland, the Cuban foreign minister met with General Wojciech Tarzelski, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, to whom he transmitted a fraternal greeting from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTER THACH VISITS SANTIAGO

FL270110 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs of that fraternal country, today arrived at Antonio Maceo Airport in Santiago de Cuba.

On hand to welcome the Vietnamese foreign minister were Santos Godoy, alternate member of the Central Committee and second secretary of the party in the province, and Ernesto Suarez, vice president of the provincial assembly of the people's government.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach expressed joy over his visit to the cradle of the revolution and cited the close ties that unite the peoples of Cuba and Vietnam. He subsequently toured various historic sites in the city.

ATTORNEY GENERAL MEETS WITH SOVIET COUNTERPART.

FL300100 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Text] Cuban Attorney General Idalberto Ladron de Guevara Quintana today met with his Soviet counterpart, Aleksandr Rekunkov. Among other subjects, they discussed aspects of cooperation between their offices.

HAVANA CITES ANGOLA'S DOS SANTOS ON CUBAN TROOPS

FL270050 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has recalled that Cuba has made sacrifices to help Angola defend its sovereignty and independence and reaffirmed that he would accept no demands for the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angolan soil.

Speaking today at a Luanda welcoming ceremony for UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Angolan president proposed four essential conditions before Angola and Cuba would consider a new calendar for the withdrawal of Cuban forces. These conditions are: the withdrawal of racist South Africa's troops now occupying a portion of Angolan territory in Cunene Province, application of UN Security Council Resolution No 435 of 1978 for Namibia's independence, an end to South Africa's attacks on Angola, and an end to all support of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] counterrevolutionary bands.

After noting that Angolans know who their friends and enemies are, the Angolan president said — amid applause and shouts of "Long Live Cuba" — that the Cubans are in Angola to defend the country from foreign attack and that they were requested by the sovereign people of Angola. What must be demanded is the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola, Dos Santos concluded.

HAVANA INTERVIEWS SWAPO REPRESENTATIVE

FL261437 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 26 Aug 83

[By Nestor Labrada, from the Revista de la Manana program — live]

[Text] Today is the international day of solidarity with Namibia and the 17th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle of the heroic people of Namibia against the South African regime, which is illegally occupying it. We have invited (Helmut Angula), member of the Central Committee of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, and representative of this organization in our country, to comment.

(Helmut), South Africa has just rejected another UN mediation proposal to speed up the independence of Namibia. What attitude has SWAPO adopted in this situation?

[(Angula)] After the failure of the Geneva conference in 1980, and after the Reagan administration came to power in the United States, which is trying to sabotage UN Security Council Resolution No. 435, SWAPO committed itself to intensifying the armed struggle. This intensification required an expanded meeting of the SWAPO Central Committee, which met from 17-20 April this year.

Our People's Army for the Liberation of Namibia has adopted measures to intensify the struggle in our homeland, and this [words indistinct] since the beginning in February, especially through June of this year, that the whole country is now in a state of regular and irregular war under the direction of our fighters. We are obliged to adopt this measure for lack of a negotiated solution that, we repeat, is being sabotaged by the Reagan administration together with the racist South African Government.

[Labrada] (Helmut), an international conference on the independence of Namibia was held recently, in April, in Paris. More recently, a seminar on the same subject was held in Costa Rica. What is your opinion of these two international meetings?

[(Angula)] Our position is to intensify the armed struggle and to mobilize world opinion to help our political, diplomatic, and material struggle. At the same time [words indistinct] the apartheid government of Pretoria and its boss, the Reagan administration. This is why we have this international solidarity campaign with our struggle, which is the result of the efforts of our people under SWAPO's leadership, the efforts of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations, and the Nonaligned Movement. We believe that the combination of armed struggle in Namibia and the international campaign against the occupation of Namibia will lead to Namibia's independence in the near future.

[Labrada] Would you like to add anything to conclude this interview?

[(Angula)] We would like to thank the Cuban people and the people of Latin America in general for their consistent assistance and support for our struggle and call on the other countries of this hemisphere to increase their solidarity with the struggle of Namibia in particular and the people of southern Africa in general.

SERGIO DEL VALLE ADDRESSES MEDICAL GRADUATION

FL261245 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Dr Sergio del Valle, member of the Politburo and minister of public health, delivered a speech last night at the Karl Marx Theater during the graduation of the Giron Victory Higher Institute of Medical Science's largest class ever.

During the ceremony, 1,210 graduates in various medical specialties received their diplomas, as did 249 stomatologists and 45 nursing specialists, for a total of 1,504 new health care professionals.

Sergio del Valle said that since the triumph of the revolution, the medical education system had graduated 17,280 doctors, 4,055 stomatologists, and 315 nursing specialists -- more than 6 times the number of medical specialists left to us by imperialist forces during the first years of the revolution.

He pointed out that in the entire country, 2,151 doctors graduated during the 1982-83 academic year. That number includes 200 who graduated in Nicaragua, 432 stomatologists, and 45 nursing specialists.

The minister of public health told the new graduates of the Giron Victory Higher Institute of Medical Science: You will play an active role in Fidel's great and beautiful project to convert Cuba into a medical power.

MEDICAL STUDENTS GO TO NICARAGUA, AFRICA

PA290220 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] A new contingent of future Cuban doctors will soon go abroad to provide international cooperation in the field of public health. The group is comprised of 228 sixth-year medical students. They will spend 2 years in Nicaragua, Guinea-Bissau, and Ethiopia. This is the third time Cuba has organized such a contingent. Their results have been described as satisfactory, particularly in Nicaragua, where the previous groups have worked.

FERNANDEZ DISCUSSES ALL-DAY SCHOOL SESSIONS

FL261444 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the Central Committee and minister of education, in a meeting with the directors of 26 basic urban secondary schools, said: The all-day school session [doble session] will strengthen the role of the school in the development of children and young people. The all-day session will be used in those schools beginning in September.

Fernandez pointed out that this new measure will help a great deal to improve the quality of education. He explained that the all-day session will allow better organization of education centers and will permit complementary activities to improve political and ideological work in the schools. This will give children and young people a complete and adequate education.

The minister of education said: We hope that this measure in the urban centers of intermediate education yields good results. If so, we will increase the number of schools with all-day sessions.

BARBADOSFOREIGN MINISTRY WELCOMES UN EFFORTS FOR NAMIBIA

FL270010 Bridgetown CANA in English 2325 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Aug 26, CANA -- Barbados today welcomed the efforts of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in breaking the stalemate on independence for Namibia and said it hoped independence would come this year for that South West African territory. The Foreign Ministry, in a message to mark Namibia Day, today said it was significant that while the international community was observing Namibia Day, all eyes should be riveted on that troubled spot.

"It is particularly important that we recognise the presence of the UN secretary general in South Africa today," the statement said. "Mr Perez de Cuellar has been mandated by the Security Council in its Resolution 532 of May 31 to open consultations with South Africa and SWAPO [the South-West African Peoples Organisation] in order to achieve the speedy implementation of the UN plans for a ceasefire and free elections."

The statement said Barbados was heartened and encouraged by the efforts of the secretary general in breaking the stalemate and that it would await, along with the international community, the outcome of these consultations. It added that five years after the adoption of Security Council Resolution 435, it was time to stop the equivocations, and vacillations and time-wasting elements introduced into those protracted negotiations. The statement said Barbados rejected any further delays in the decolonisation of the Namibian people.

"It would be a considerable tribute to the United Nations if, on this day, the issue could be finally settled," the statement said. "It will be cause for great jubilation when Namibia takes its rightful place as a equal member in the family of nations at the UN General Assembly."

"Today, as we pay tribute to the courageous men and women of Namibia and to SWAPO, the authentic and sole representatives of the Namibian people, Barbados once again raises its voice in solidarity and we call on all nations to oppose South Africa's subterfuge and to applaud the efforts of the UN in the fulfillment of the mandate entrusted to it in the hope that, in 1983, independence will come to Namibia, the statement said.

DLP CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL POLICY

FL291437 Bridgetown CANA in English 2000 GMT 28 Aug 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, Aug 28, CANA -- The opposition Democratic Labour Party (DLP) today called on the government to publicly unravel the "mystery" about a 130 million dollar (one Bds dollar .50 cents U.S.) debt owed to Barbados by fellow Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries under a regional trade credit mechanism.

In an address to the party's annual delegates conference, President Brandford Taitt, who was re-elected unopposed, said government's failure to retrieve the owed sums out of the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (MCF) had sent Barbados to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last year for two balance of payments support loans totalling 47.2 million dollars (U.S.).

"Full disclosure of what happened would at least ensure that it never happens again," Taitt, a former trade minister, said. "But full disclosure...is a poison to this government."

The CMCF, suspended in March after reaching its 100 million dollar (U.S.) credit ceiling, was reactivated after last month's Caricom heads of government summit in Trinidad and Tobago. Financially-strapped Guyana was the biggest debtor.

Informed sources told CANA after the July 4-9 summit that the Caricom leaders had agreed to an injection of 12.2 million dollars (U.S.) to get the facility going again, and that 10 million of this was to go to Barbados.

Taitt charged, too, that the government's failure to get its money out of the CMCF had caused the closure of at least five local factories, "with the concomitant loss of jobs and economic degradation for hundreds of Barbadian families."

"Payments for our export trade are literally our life-blood. That is why management by a government in this crucial sector is so catastrophic for the country concerned," the DLP president said.

GRENADA

STRACHAN APPOINTED MINISTER OF INFORMATION

FL271856 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Aug 27, CANA -- Grenada's ruling People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) today announced the appointment of Selwyn Strachan, the national mobilisation minister, as the new minister of information. The announcement was made during the opening of the 14th general assembly meeting of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU).

Strachan, who is also responsible for labour and social security, replaces Prime Minister Maurice Bishop as information minister. Bishop has held the information portfolio since his New Jewel Movement (NJM) ousted the Eric Gairy administration in a March 13, 1979 coup, the first in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Strachan was appointed Thursday.

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

FL291737 Bridgetown CANA in English 1952 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Aug 27, CANA -- Grenada plans to invest 270 million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) in capital projects during the next three years, Finance Minister Bernard Coard said. The state-controlled Radio Free Grenada quoted Coard in simultaneously announcing approval for a 14.1 million dollar (U.S.) loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the next three years.

Coard, the deputy prime minister, said government's three-year investment plan would involve development of tourism, agriculture, agro-industries, farm and feeder roads, light industries, housing, and health education. He said the IMF loan was very important to the island's economic development.

Coard did not mention the terms and conditions under which the agreement was reached but said its successful negotiation was a testimony of Grenada's credit worthiness. He said the United States, which has a 20 per cent share of votes on the fund's executive board, had strongly opposed the Grenadian request.

The Grenada Government, Coard stated, was up to date with its repayment of loans to all governments and international as well as regional and local banks from which it had borrowed money.

He expressed Grenada's gratitude to those member countries of the IMF executive board which, he said, had rejected United States pressure and supported the loan agreement to the Caribbean island. The loan is the third agreement of its kind between the island and the IMF since the socialist New Jewel Movement (NJM) ousted the Eric Gairy regime in a March 13, 1979 coup.

BISHOP URGES JURISTS TO HELP POOR GET IMF LOANS

FL252116 Bridgetown CANA in English 1809 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Aug 25, CANA — Grenada has called on members of the American Association of Jurists (AAJ), now meeting here, to assist the poor countries of the world with their economic development.

Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said the jurists could set up an economic commission within the 10-year-old body to help regional countries in their "struggle" to obtain funds from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other international financial institutions.

Addressing delegates attending the Sixth Conference of the AAJ, Bishop said that jurists assigned to this commission could provide invaluable service to the countries of the region in their dealings with international financial institutions and international commercial banks.

He said there was a need for a review of the operations of a number of multilateral institutions and creation of an economic commission of jurists could be of tremendous assistance to the poorer states of the world in this regard.

The prime minister said he felt such a body within the AAJ could be useful in terms of giving advice on questions such as these institutions' allocations to developing countries and their conditionality attached to loan financing.

He added that other areas in which the commission could be of assistance relate to the decision-making and veto powers of some countries and the flexibility of guidelines which he said do not allow applicant countries to get the same treatment.

Bishop, who has consistently called for a new international economic order to bring more benefits for the Third World, [words indistinct] precedents to critically address these issues.

The Grenadian leader charged that the establishment of an economic commission within the AAJ could ensure that "watchdog committees" could be set up by the association to help Third World countries oversee the operations of multilateral financing institutions.

These committees could also help in dealing with any issues which might arise in negotiations between developing countries and the financial institutions which may require arbitration, he added.

Bishop further stressed that such a commission could assist the poorer states of the world in reviewing the quota allocations with international financial institutions and helping them devise strategies to facilitate negotiations with these institutions.

UN ENVOY HOLDS TALKS ON ESSEQUIBO DISPUTE

FL261750 Bridgetown CANA in English 1737 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 26, CANA -- Special envoy of the United Nations secretary general, Diego Cordoves, has held talks with top Guyana Government officials on this country's century-old territorial dispute with neighbouring Venezuela, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Cordoves, UN under secretary general for Latin American affairs, arrived here Wednesday night from Caracas, where he said he had "constructive" talks with Venezuela officials on the issue.

The sources said the UN representative met Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid, Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson, Attorney-general Mohammed Shahabudeen, and Foreign Ministry officials. No details of the talks were given.

Venezuela claims mineral-rich Essequibo, a 52,000 square mile region which forms five-eighths of Guyana's total land area. Under a 1966 agreement signed in Geneva by both Guyana and Venezuela, the UN is charged with finding a mutually acceptable procedure for settling the dispute peacefully.

Cordoves said he would present a report to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the problem as seen by both countries at the end of his talks here.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco said shortly before Cordoves arrived in Caracas that Venezuela will continue to press its claim on the Essequibo territory in the context of UN procedure.

Pushes for Peaceful Relations

FL271842 Bridgetown CANA in English 1555 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 27, CANA -- United Nations special envoy Diego Cordoves, who is seeking a resolution of Venezuela's longstanding claim to the mineral-rich Essequibo territory in Guyana, left here yesterday after what he described as "very thorough discussions" with local government officials.

Cordoves, who has also visited Caracas at the behest of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, said the world body hoped the two South American countries would establish good neighbourly relations.

"This is what we are interested in...relations of friendship and co-operation, and we are basically trying to assist them to reach that stage," he said.

He said he was leaving here with great appreciation for the cooperation that he received from the Guyana Government.

"I have had very thorough discussions and I have been provided with the information that I needed," he said. "I have also a feeling of the strength and the sentiments of the people of Guyana, and I was able to gain a very broad and comprehensive impression of the attitude of the people towards the Guyana-Venezuela territorial controversy."

Cordoves said the role of the United Nations secretary general in the dispute was to find a means of settlement which both Guyana and Venezuela could use in an effective way so that they might be able to find a definite and durable solution.

He added that the secretary general wanted to undertake a serious study of the matter, "and during my visit here and to Caracas I sought to find out the positions of the two governments and more importantly the strength of the feelings of the people."

The envoy said there was no definite time-frame by which the secretary general hoped to recommend a means of settlement.

"Rather, the time-frame will be determined by the process of studying the matter very, very carefully," he said.

POLITICAL OPPOSITION SCORES U.S. MANEUVERS

FL261737 Bridgetown CANA in English 1603 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 26, CANA -- Guyana's opposition Working Peoples Alliance (WPA) has said here that naval exercises by the United States in Caribbean and Central American waters off the Nicaraguan coast must be seen as the "use of intimidation to support the U.S.-financed armed aggression against Nicaragua."

"It recalls last April's armed manoeuvres in Caribbean waters timed to coincide with the naming of Grenada as a threat to the security of the United States of America by President Reagan himself, the leftwing WPA said in a statement.

The WPA said the Caribbean does not need to be reminded that the U.S. is a military power of wretched potential.

"There is no need to show the flag, hence the manoeuvres off the coast of Nicaragua must be seen as directed by Reagan's manifesto against the young revolution and his aim to liquidate it," the WPA said.

The opposition party said Reagan "represents, and is the chosen prophet of, those American forces which see U.S. prosperity as depending on a link between international reaction, apartheid, aggression, and the U.S. military industry," the WPA said.

BRIEFS

LOSS IN GOLD EARNINGS -- Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 25, CANA -- Guyana lost more than 72 million dollars (G) (one Guy dollar; 33 cents U.S.) in earnings from gold during last year, Energy Minister Harun Raschid told the just ended annual delegated congress of the ruling Peoples National Congress (PNC) here. A PNC release quoted Raschid as saying that during last year, the Guyana Gold Board was able to purchase only 2.1 million dollars (G) of gold from miners out of an annual production of 75 million dollars (G) worth. The board is the only authorised purchaser of raw gold in Guyana. The minister said increased sales of gold to the official purchaser would help greatly in reducing the problems miners face in securing equipment and other imported inputs for the industry. [Excerpt]
[Bridgetown CANA in English 1752 GMT 25 Aug 83 FL]